

7/19/66

Dear Belfrage,

So much accumulates and so much always has to be done in the too many things I have undertaken that if I do not respond immediately I fear I won't. I should be and soon will be doing a press release that I'll have to take to town for mimeographing. We are back to press, the 5,000 gone save for a few I'm holding for the individual orders that we get daily. We'll have 5,000 more early next week. We're doing an index I hope will be finished and checked in time for inclusion. Serialization in Arriba, Madrid, confirmed their request, uninspired. And I was in NY Thursday for taping of a TV program, WNEW-TV, Alan Burke show. The quarter segment of the four-part, two hour show I'd been invited to get quite exciting and will be a full two-hour special. Either they arranged it or somebody's spies worked well, for there was a psuedo-responsible claque of lawyers laying in wait. The format is one with audience participation. There is an open mike on an unpoliced podium. You just walk up and talk. Well, these guys were ill-prepared. They apparently knew nothing of their quarry or were misinformed or over-confident. They hadn't done their homework, didn't know what they were talking about (as though they had been briefed by the authors of the Report). They were badly behaved, trying to gang up on me; tried to overwhelm me and talk over me; tried to intimidate and impugn; took turns and talked simultaneously; asked too many questions for immediate answer; quoyed Shakespeare to have it quoted back (to their Marc Antony's "all honorable men" I gave them All's Well's "'Tis not the many others that make the truth, but the single plain, single vow that is vow'd true." and the proof that they had either not read or not understood the Introduction. And so it went. I slaughtered them! They started on me at the bell. It took a little over an hour and a half of the most dramatic, I think, TV, to silence them. I kept, as with the Long John kooks, showing how they sought to prevent answer (time, though I made all then answers I wanted), kept emphasizing they would not hear the ballistics, and, once they were battered, said perhaps I could not answer the first question- and did, quietly, and without interruption. It built nicely and I believe it will have a real wallop when aired, scheduled for the 23rd.

They made a Galashad of me, without so intending, and I'm told my verbal lancersy was quite good. The staff of the show flocked around me at the end, asked to me view an immediate rerun, but I was too tired and planned to return home before daylight, which I did (and fortunately, for I was phoned about another 4-hour radio show and a half hour on TV on which I agreed to confront the father of the magical bullet, Specter, in his own stamping grounds, Phila, where he is DA. I asked them, if he agreed - which I do not expect - to postpone it until the public is better prepared and I have a distributor there.). This is but part of what I was referring to in speaking of the constructive things I can do. Right now I am apprehensive about only the appearance of Lane's book, and it is not the book but him. He is not a nice guy. I've had a brief, uninitiated correspondence with him. But his publishers are aggressive, both here and in England.

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There ~~was~~ more than the single crime of murder in the assassination. I shall not go to Dallas, shall not address myself directly to the solution of the crime, but will ~~and~~ address the related conspiracies. On one of these I am close to a solution and have enough now, I believe, for legal action. There may, indeed, be some hazard. But there is no secret what I'm doing and little about what I have, even though I'm saying nothing.

It is all official and in a way even more chocking than WHITEWASH. The solution of this conspiracy may lead to a solution of the initial crime. Tiger will in its own way, as indicated in the last paragraph of your review, deal with motive and possibly with conspirators, co-conspirators or assassin-inspirers. Aside from the American Univ. speech what I was asking is anything you recalled of policy changes made or indicated... I have lost my Jean Daniel pieces in the New Republic and he hasn't answered the request of a British colleague and friend for copies of whatever he has written on his Kennedy and Castro interviews.... I'd really like to go to IOJ because of the reasons you offer and, frankly, just for a break, but I feel I'm doing something worthwhile, not heroic, and want to spend every minute on it. If they invite me, I just might go anyway, for there are always possibilities for good works if a man will work and seize his opportunities... And I could speak to my British and possibly other agents... The unseen word does little good... Your Sally is indeed my publishing fairy godmother. Best wishes,